"how children should grow". The standard formulation utilizes growth of healthy children only. Hence the question of taking into account the cases of malnutrition of children in Vidarbha region or the judgement of Bombay High Court in this matter does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Survey Report titled "Focus on children under Six", brought out by the Citizens Initiatives for the Rights of Children under Six, indicated a decline in the qualitative aspects of the programme in some of the States/UTs.

(d) Taking a serious view of the observations made therein, the Hon'ble Prime Minister in a letter to the Chief Ministers, impressed upon them the need to set up an institutional review process at their level after carrying out a detailed assessment of the Programme in their State; lay emphasis on the programme status in areas with concentaration of minority communities and preponderance of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, adequately empower Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to monitor and supervise the working of these Committees; make line officials firmly accountable for their action and report on a quarterly basis on further developments in this sector.

Registered orphanages

898. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the total number of registered orphanages in the country;

(a) the number of orphan children adopted from these orphanages during the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to add more orphanages in the country and to improve the living condition and working of the existing ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATl RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per the information available in the Ministry, the number of Shishu Grehas (orphanages) across the country are 80. In addition, the number of children homes across the country are 416.

(b) The number of orphan/abandoned/surrendered children adopted through Central Adoption Resource Authority, Recognised Placement Agencies and Shishu Grehas during last three years are as below:

Year	No. of Adoptions
2004	3315
2005	3151
2006	3332

(c) Section 41(4) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 provides that the State Government shall recognize one or more of its institutions or voluntary organizations in each district as specialized adoption agencies in such manner as may be prescribed for placement of orphan, abandoned or surrendered children for adoption in accordance with the guidelines.

Section 34(3) of the Act also provides that all institutions whether Government run or those run by voluntary organizations for children in need of care and protection, shall be registered under the Act within a period of six months from the date of commencement of this Act.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has formulated a new Centrally sponsored scheme—Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)' for implementation during Eleventh Plan Period in which there are provisions for setting up of Adoption Coordinating Agency, Specialized Adoption Agency and Cradle Baby Reception Centre to promote in-country adoption for permanent rehabilitation of orphaned, abandoned and surrendered children in a family environment. This scheme also has a provision for financial assistance Jo enable better working conditions of these orphanages.

12.00 NOON

RULING BY THE CHAIR

Conversion of privilege notices into discussion under rule 176 on Indo-US Civil Nuclear Co-operation Agreement

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair has to give a ruling on notices given under Rule 168. I have received several notices under Rule 168 on matters pertaining to the Indo-US Nuclear Agreement. On scrutiny of these notices, I have found that in some of the motions, a demand has been made for disapproval or rejection of the Agreement or have a vote of the House on it. In other cases, a demand has been made for renegotiation of the Agreement. There are other notices of motion, again under Rule 168, in which a demand has been made to have a discussion on the Agreement. Since it is not a Constitutional obligation for the Executive to have the approval of Parliament on any international treaty or agreement, admission of these motions which involve approval of Parliament would not be in order. I am, therefore, converting these notices into notices for discussion under Rule 176. The Business Advisory Committee has already identified this subject for discussion.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Power

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power:

(0 S.O. 318 (E), dated the 5th March, 2007, notifying for designated consumers to designate or appoint energy manager, etc. and Energy Conservation (the form and manner for submission of report on the status of energy consumption by the designated consumers) Rules, 2007. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7043/07].